

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) Piezoceramic composition with the general molecular formula  $Pb_{1-a}RE_bZr_xTi_yTR_zO_3$ , in which
  - RE is at least one rare earth metal selected from the group europium, gadolinium, lanthanum, neodymium, praseodymium, promethium and/or samarium with a rare earth metal proportion b,
  - TR is at least one transition metal selected from the group chromium, iron and/or manganese with a transition metal valency  $W_{TR}$  and a transition metal proportion z and
  - The following relationship applies:  $z > b/(4 - W_{TR})$ .
2. (original) Piezoceramic composition in which the rare earth metal proportion is selected from a range of 0.2 mol% to 3 mol%.
3. Piezoceramic composition in accordance with Claim 1 [[or 2]], in which a sum of the rare earth metal proportion and of the transition metal proportion is less than 6 mol%.
4. (currently amended) Piezoceramic composition in accordance with ~~one of the Claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, in which the RE is a single rare earth metal and TR is selected from at most two transition metals or TR is a single transition metal and RE is selected from at most two rare earth metals.
5. (currently amended) Piezoceramic composition in accordance with ~~one of the Claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, with a

value for a mechanical quality factor  $Q_m$  which is selected from a range 50 up to and including 1800.

6. (currently amended) Piezoceramic composition in accordance with ~~one of the Claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, with a Curie-temperature  $T_c$  lying above  $280^\circ\text{C}$ .
7. (currently amended) Method for producing a piezoceramic composition in accordance with ~~one of the Claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, in which a maximum particle growth of the piezoceramic composition is determined at a specific sinter temperature.
8. (original) Method in accordance with Claim 7, where the following steps are performed:
  - a) Definition of the rare earth metal proportion  $b$ ,
  - b) Definition of the transition metal proportion  $z$ ,
  - c) Sintering of the piezoceramic composition at the sinter temperature,
  - d) Determining a particle size of the sintered piezoceramic composition and
  - e) Repeating steps b) to d), with the transition metal proportion  $z$  being varied.
9. (currently amended) Method in accordance with Claim 7 [[or 8]], with the transition metal iron with an iron proportion  $z_{\text{Fe}}$  and the transition metal manganese with a manganese proportion  $Z_{\text{Mn}}$  being used, so that the relationship to  $z_{\text{Fe}} + 2 \cdot Z_{\text{Mn}}, > b$  is produced and with the variation of the manganese proportion  $Z_{\text{Mn}}$ , essentially the dissipation factor  $\text{tg } \delta$  of the composition and with the variation of the iron proportion  $z_{\text{Fe}}$ , essentially the maximum value particle growth of the composition are set.

10. (currently amended) Piezoceramic body with a piezoceramic composition in accordance with ~~one of the Claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1.
11. (original) Piezoceramic body in accordance with Claim 10, featuring a metallization selected from at least one of the group silver, copper and/or palladium.
12. (original) Piezoceramic body in accordance with Claim 11, in which a proportion of palladium is selected ranging from 0% up to an including 30%.
13. (original) Piezoceramic body in accordance with Claim 12, in which the proportion of palladium amounts to a maximum of 5%.
14. (currently amended) Piezoceramic body in accordance with ~~one of the Claims 10 to 13~~ claim 10, featuring a monolithic multilayer construction in which piezoceramic layers with the piezoceramic composition and electrode layers with the metallization are arranged alternating above one another.
15. (currently amended) Piezoceramic body in accordance with ~~one of the Claims 10 to 14~~ claim 10, which is a component selected from the group actuator, bending converter, motor and/or transformer.
16. (currently amended) Method for producing a piezoceramic body ~~in accordance with one of the Claims 10 to 15~~, with the steps:
  - f) Provision of a green body with a piezoceramic composition in accordance with ~~one of the Claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 and
  - g) Sintering of the green body to the piezoceramic body.

17. (original) Method in accordance with Claim 16, where a green body is provided with a metallization which is selected from the group silver, copper and/or palladium.
18. (currently amended) Method in accordance with Claim 16 [[or 17]], where the sintering is undertaken in an oxidizing or reducing sinter atmosphere.
19. (currently amended) Method in accordance with one ~~of the Claims 16 to 18~~ claim 16, with a sinter temperature ranging from 900°C to 1100°C inclusive being selected for sintering.
20. (currently amended) Method in accordance with one ~~of the Claims 16 to 19~~ claim 16, with a green body with a plurality of particle growth seeds being used with the piezoceramic composition.